

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 090938Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4521

INFO USMISSION USUN

S E C R E T THE HAGUE 4994

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, XF, NL

SUBJ: GON CONCERN OVER PLO ISSUE AT UN

REF: STATE 221222

1. DURING OCTOBER 8 LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH DCM, FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL RUTTEN CONFIRMED THAT GON WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HANDLING OF PLO ISSUE AT UN. AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE AND CONVICTION, AND ALSO BECAUSE OF THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION, THE GON CANNOT TURN ITS BACK ON ISRAEL AND SIMPLY LET NATURE TAKE ITS COURSE AT THE UNGA. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GON DOES NOT RPT NOT WANT TO BE ISOLATED FROM ITS EC PARTNERS, AS IT WAS DURING LAST YEAR'S MIDDLE EAST WAR, AND RUN THE RISK OF A NEW ARAB OIL BOYCOTT.

2. RUTTEN MADE CLEAR THAT HIS AUTHORITIES DO NOT AT ALL LIKE THE PALESTINIAN RESOLUTION AS PRESENTLY DRAFTED. THEY CONSIDER THE SECOND PREAMBULARY PARAGRAPH, TO THE EFFECT THAT A SETTLEMENT OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM MUST FORM THE CORE OF ANY PEACE SETTLEMENT, ESPECIALLY TROUBLESOME. RUTTEN RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS GOING TO BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO OPPOSE OR EVEN MODIFY THIS RESOLUTION. THE JORDANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAD TOLD FONMIN VAN DER STOEL THAT ALTHOUGH HE WOULD SPEAK AGAINST IT, HE COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT

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VOTE AGAINST IT. JORDAN COULD NOT AFFORD TO ISOLATE

ITSELF FROM THE OTHER ARAB STATES. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION, RUTTEN UNDERSTOOD THAT DENMARK WHICH HAD ALSO SUFFERED THE ARAB BOYCOTT LAST YEAR, WAS THINKING IN CONCERT WITH ITS NORDIC NEIGHBORS OF VOTING FOR THE RESOLUTION.

3. RUTTEN THOUGHT THAT AS FAR AS THE EC-9 WERE CONCERNED THE BEST FEASIBLE OUTCOME WOULD BE AGREEMENT TO ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION. AT THIS POINT EVEN THAT WOULD TAKE A LOT OF DOING. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WAS THE KEY COUNTRY, FOR IF IT DECIDED TO VOTE FOR THE RESOLUTION IT WOULD BE PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE UK OR ITALY, NOT TO MENTION THE SMALLER EC MEMBERS, TO ABSTAIN. RUTTEN DID NOT REFER TO FRANCE BUT IMPLIED THAT AN 8-TO-1 SPLIT, WITH FRANCE VOTING FOR THE RESOLUTION AND THE OTHERS ABSTAINING, WOULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE OUTCOME TO THE DUTCH.

4. RUTTEN REENFORCED DUTCH MINISTER VAN AERSSSEN'S URGENT REQUEST FOR THE US TO DECIDE ON ITS POSITION AND TACTICS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND TO MAKE A STRONG DEMARCHE IN EC CAPITALS CALLING FOR A COMMON US-EC-9 POSITION.

5. RUTTEN HAS JUST TELEPHONED TO ADVISE THAT FONOFF HAS RECEIVED, VIA SYRIAN EMBASSY (LOCATED IN BRUSSELS), TEXT OF MODIFIED DRAFT RESOLUTION, OMITTING FIRST PREAMBULARY PARAGRAPH TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PLO IS THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. RUTTEN COMMENTED THAT THIS CHANGE WOULD MAKE THE RESOLUTION MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THOSE WHO HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE ORIGINAL VERSION.

5. DEPT PASS TO TEL AVIV IF DESIRED.
GOULD

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TELAVIV.

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NNN

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